

# PEORIA TRIBE OF INDIANS OF OKLAHOMA EEHİŠİ İIYAAYANKWI

“Where we are going”



Volume 15, Issue 3

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## Chief's message

Fall is fast approaching, and it is my favorite time of year. The summer heat is fading, and shortly the trees will begin to show their beautiful colors. With that in mind, the school year has started for many of our students, other classes will resume very soon. I would like to wish all of our tribal students the best of luck during this school year. I would also like to remind students, this is the time to set your educational goals and work hard to achieve those goals. The Education Committee is currently reviewing our Scholarship Program and will be making recommendations to the Business Committee regarding rising tuition costs. Students remember to submit all required scholarship documentation, complete and on time. If you have any questions please call Mandie Ferguson, our Education Director, for further assistance.

The Business Committee has been working on several projects this summer to enhance tribal properties, tribal programs and protect tribal assets. The Hotel remodel is nearly complete. The upgrades and additions made to our existing guest rooms are first-class. In a constant effort to improve our gaming operation, we are also examining our existing gaming facility and looking at a possible expansion of Buffalo Run Casino and Resort. A Special Business Committee Meeting was held to review bids received for the expansion proposal.

The Business Committee has also been working with local tribal leaders, county and city officials, on two very important projects that could potentially have adverse effects on tribal properties and tribal members living in our community. FEMA is currently reviewing the flood boundaries of Ottawa County. There have been discussions on increasing the flood plain which could put tribal properties and residents in the flood hazard boundary. All parties mentioned are opposed to FEMA's proposal, as an increase could require the Tribe and other residents to carry flood insurance on properties that have never flooded. This increase would also limit grant opportunities, as HUD regulations will not allow any type of construction if you reside in the flood plain. The Peoria Tribal Housing Authority could potentially be included if this increase takes effect. If FEMA's proposed changes are implemented, the Housing Authority would have to use funds typically set aside for housing programs, to cover the costs of flood insurance premiums. The Peoria Tribe will continue to collaborate with other tribal leaders and city officials to find a resolution to this situation.

I would like to remind everyone to be safe and attentive as the school year begins. Please watch out for our little ones as they travel to and from school. As always, if you have any questions please feel free to contact the office anytime.

Best wishes,  
John P. Froman, Chief

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### Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma

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## Christmas Party 2016

All Peoria Tribal members are invited to attend the 2016 Peoria Children's Christmas Party. The party will be held at the OTTAWA/PEORIA CULTURAL CENTER on Saturday, December 10, 2016, between 1:00pm – 3:00pm

We will have entertainment and refreshments. Santa will arrive at 2:00pm to distribute gifts to pre-registered Peoria children. In October registration letters will be mailed to parents of Peoria children under the age of thirteen, residing within a 90 mile radius of Miami, OK. If you live outside this area and are planning to attend the party, please call the office and let Mandie know.

The invites will go out on October 17, 2016, if you do not receive a registration letter and your child plans to attend the Christmas party, please notify me as soon as possible at the Peoria Tribal office at 1-918-540-2535 or 1-800-259-9987, I can be reached at extension 10. There will be door prizes for our tribal elders, so bring your ENTIRE family.

Please plan to attend the Peoria Children's Christmas Party!  
Financial donations to the Christmas Party fund are always appreciated.

Mandie Ferguson – Christmas Party Coordinator

### Special Projects/ NAGPRA

Greetings Tribal Members,

The Peoria Tribe's 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Pow-Wow was another great success this year. It was great to see so many tribal members come out to enjoy the culture which we all share. It is thanks to all of the hard work of the Pow-Wow Coordinator and Committee that the event went so smoothly. I hope to see many of you next year as we celebrate our 20<sup>th</sup> annual Pow-Wow

After the NAGPRA Consultation meeting with Indiana University the Peoria Tribe has been returned 23 ancestors which will be buried out at the Peoria Tribe Cemetery in the near future. In addition to this Indiana university along with many other tribes with a shared interest in our ancestral lands have begun having further consultation meetings in order to identify and return culturally unidentified remains to their respective tribes. There will be another meeting in regards to this group in October which I will be attending.

Last year in August there was an MOU Workshop held by the Indiana Department of Transportation in order to begin drafting a document which would help lay out procedures which IDOT may take with tribes in regards to Section 106 consultations. It is my pleasure to announce that the final version of this document has been completed and will be sent out to the respective tribes in the coming months. It is my hope that with this MOU in place that the state of Indiana can have a more fluid and cooperative relationship with those tribes which have a vested interest in the State.

Respectfully,  
Logan Pappenfort

## In Memory Of:

Edward George Cassidy Jr

Cynthia Lucille Cunningham

Kenneth Wayne Epperson Jr

James Alvin Golden

Jeffrey Thomas Grayson

Stephen Dale King

Dorothy Lee Miller

Tina Lynn Moore

Severen Thomas Scott Redden

### AVAILABLE

## INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE WATER AND SEWER ASSISTANCE

The Indian Health Service, Miami Office of Environmental Health and Engineering, offers programs to install water and sewer facilities to qualified Indian Homeowners. Funding and construction of sanitation facilities, such as wells, water service lines, septic tanks and drain fields, wastewater lagoons and sewer service lines, are available.

Minimum eligibility requirements include:

1. Property must be located within the boundaries of the nine tribes of the Inter-tribal Council, Inc. of Northeast Oklahoma in Ottawa and Delaware Counties, Oklahoma.
2. You must be a member of a federally recognized Indian tribe, band or group.
3. The home must be Indian owned and occupied.
4. HUD homes must be paid in full before services can be provided.

Documentation of tribal affiliation and home ownership or long-term lease (5 years minimum) will be required with the application for services. Mobile homes must be tied down, skirted and wheels removed prior to service.

Please note that applying for service does not guarantee you will receive service. Service depends on the availability of funding.

Please contact Erik Somers, Construction Inspector, at 918-399-5186 or [erik.somers@ihs.gov](mailto:erik.somers@ihs.gov) for more information. You may also call our office at 918-542-6414, or stop by our office located in the Inter-Tribal Council, Inc. Administrative Offices at 21 N. Eight Tribes Trail, Miami, Oklahoma.

## Tribal Committees

### Business Committee

Chief	John P. Froman	03/2018
Second Chief	Jason Dollarhide	03/2017
Treasurer	Aaron Wayne Blalock	03/2020
Secretary	Tonya Mathews	03/2019
First Councilman	Carolyn Ritchey	03/2020
Second Councilman	Craig Harper	03/2017
Third Councilman	Alan Goforth	03/2019

### Grievance Committee

Lela Stand.....	2018
Annette Black.....	2017
Katy Sisco.....	2017
Mary Lembcke Davey.....	2018
Mark Davey.....	2020

### Election Committee

Kristen Gillman, Chairperson; Toni Potts, Secretary; Courtney McCartney, Bud Ellis, Shelley Mitchell

### Enrollment Committee

Jenny Rampey, Jeane Wynn, & Kay Harper

### Economic Development/Finance/Properties

Hank Downum

### Housing/Social Services

Vacant, M. Annette Black

### Education Committee

Donna Fitzgibbon, Chairperson; Alan Goforth, Secretary; Sadie Detherage, Jamie Giles

### Audit Committee

Michael Lewis, Kendra Robinson, Meredith Purgason

### Culture and Language Committee

Donna Fitzgibbon, Kevin Dawes

### Stomp Dance Committee

Rob Blalock, Chairperson; John Froman, Rick Landers, Terry Kinder, Ruthie Jones, Donna Fitzgibbon, Karen Stand, David Tyner, Darlene Young, Jeffery "Dude" Blalock, Bill Blalock

### Repatriation Committee

Jason Dollarhide, Chairperson; Michael Eddy, John Froman, Eddie Froman, Cynthia Purgason, LeAnne Reeves, Jane Hahn, Laura McCoy

### Cemetery Committee

Bill Blalock, John Froman

### Historical Committee

Joann Evans, Chairperson; Roberta Lindsly, Rick Landers

## Business Committees Minutes

### REGULAR MEETING APRIL 5, 2016

Chief Froman called the meeting to order. Carolyn Ritchey gave the invocation. Secretary Tonya Mathews declared a quorum with all members present. Motion was made and seconded to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously. Motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of March 1, 2016. Motion carried unanimously. Motion was made and seconded to amend the current budget and approve the remaining balance needed to complete Buffalo Run Hotel remodel project out of Tribal Enterprises in the amount of \$870,156.13. Motion carried unanimously. Following brief explanation, motion was made and seconded to approve the financial reports for February 2016. Motion carried unanimously. Following discussion, motion was made and seconded for a one-time procurement policy waiver for purchase of topsoil at Peoria Tribal Fish Hatchery, offering Bob Cole of Cole Excavating, \$250.00 per truck load. Motion carried unanimously. There was no unfinished business brought before the Committee. Motion was made and seconded to approve new members as recommended by the Enrollment Committee. Motion carried unanimously. Upon motions made and duly seconded, one resolution was presented for consideration and approved by unanimous votes: **Resolution R-04-05-16-A, "Approval for Changes to the Peoria Tribal Membership Roll"**: Motion was made and seconded to approve Resolution R-04-05-16-A. Motion carried unanimously. **Appointment of Election Committee Member (Shelley Mitchell)**: Motion was made and seconded to approve Election Committee Member (Shelley Mitchell): Motion carried unanimously. There were no public comments received. There was no call for Executive Session. Motion to adjourn was made and seconded. Motion carried unanimously and the meeting was adjourned.

### REGULAR MEETING MAY 3, 2016

Chief Froman called the meeting to order. Carolyn Ritchey gave the invocation. Secretary Tonya Mathews declared a quorum with all members present. Motion was made and seconded to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously. Motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of April 5, 2016, as presented. Motion carried unanimously. Motion was made and seconded to transfer funds from Tribal Enterprise Account to zero out FY2016 in the amount of \$108,611.64. Following further discussion, motion carried unanimously. Motion was made and seconded to approve the financial reports for March 2016. Motion carried unanimously. Motion was made and seconded to transfer from Tribal Enterprise Account \$21,708.50 to zero out Peoria Tribal Gaming Commission budget for FY2016. Motion carried with a vote of 5 for, 1 abstention. Following brief explanation of tribal investment options and current investments held with Stockton and Associates, motion was made and seconded to reinvest money market accounts 114775T, 114776T, 114777T, into five year investment accounts with a maturity date of May 5, 2021. Motion carried unanimously. Following discussion and explanation of sequence of events, the Committee voted to pay reimbursement amount of \$500.00 to tribal member, with a vote of 5 for, 1 opposed. There was no motion or second. There was no unfinished business brought before the Committee. Motion was made and seconded to approve new members as recommended by the Enrollment Committee. Motion carried unanimously. Upon motions made and duly seconded, two resolutions was presented for consideration and approved by unanimous votes:

(1) **Resolution R-05-03-16-A, "Approval for Changes to the Peoria Tribal Membership Roll"**: Motion was made and seconded to approve changes as presented. Motion carried unanimously. (2) **Resolution R-05-03-16-B, "Federal Transit Administration 5311c Tribal Transit Program Fast Act-Discretionary Grant FY-2016"**: Following brief explanation of Grand Gateway grant application, motion was made and seconded to approve Resolution R-05-03-16-B. Motion carried unanimously. Public comments were received from Carolyn Ritchey regarding a large tribal financial donation request she was approached about, to be dispersed between the five public schools in Ottawa County. Chief Froman gave a brief explanation of \$25.00 standard donation given to area schools out of Public Relations Account. Further discussion regarding current Gaming Compact with the state of Oklahoma, and funds previously earmarked for education. There was no call for Executive Session. Motion to adjourn was made and seconded. Motion carried unanimously and the meeting was adjourned.

### REGULAR MEETING JUNE 7, 2016

Chief Froman called the meeting to order. Carolyn Ritchey gave the invocation. Secretary Tonya Mathews declared a quorum with five members present, Wayne Blalock called ahead to notify the Committee he would be unable to attend. Motion was made and seconded to approve the amended agenda to include changes to Resolution R-06-07-16-C, as presented. Motion carried with a vote of 4 for 1 abstention. Motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of May 3, 2016, as presented. Motion carried unanimously. Motion was made and seconded to approve the financial reports for April 2016. Motion carried unanimously. Following discussion, motion was made and seconded to approve salary increase for C. McDowell as recommended by the Peoria Tribal Gaming Commission, retro-active to May 5, 2016. Motion carried with a vote of 5 for, and

1 abstention. Following discussion regarding policies and procedures of the Eldercare and Disability Reimbursement Program, motion was made and seconded to reaffirm the vote from the May Business Committee Meeting regarding tribal member request for reimbursement. Vote was 4 for, 1 opposed. Motion carried unanimously. There was no unfinished business brought before the Committee. Motion was made and seconded to approve new members as recommended by the Enrollment Committee. Motion carried unanimously. Upon motions made and duly seconded, six resolutions were presented for consideration and approved: (1) **Resolution R-06-07-16-A, “Approval for Changes to the Peoria Tribal Membership Roll”**: Motion was made and seconded to approve changes as presented. Motion carried unanimously. (2) **Resolution R-06-07-16-B, “Renewal of Three-Year General Counsel Contract”**: Following discussion regarding Attorney Coy Morrow, motion was made and seconded to approve Resolution R-06-07-16-B, renewing Attorney Coy Morrow’s three year contract. Motion carried unanimously. (3) **Resolution R-06-07-16-C, “Resolution Supporting Submittal of the Housing Authority of the Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma Fiscal Year 2016 Housing Rehabilitation Indian Community Development Block Grant”**: Following brief explanation of grant funds, motion was made and seconded to approve Resolution R-06-07-16-C. Motion carried with a vote of 4 for, 1 abstention. (4) **Resolution R-06-07-16-D, “Peoria Tribe Certification That Citizen Participation Requirements Met For Fiscal Year 2016 Indian Community Development Block Grant”**: Motion was made and seconded to approve Resolution R-06-07-16-D. Motion carried with a vote of 4 for, 1 abstention. (5) **Resolution R-06-07-16-E, “Authorization to Participate in the U.S. Department of Justice, National Institute of Justice (NIJ) Violence Against Indian Women (VAIW) National Baseline Study”**: Following brief explanation of program, motion was made and seconded to approve Resolution R-06-07-16-E. Motion carried unanimously. (6) **Resolution R-06-07-16-F, “Tribal Youth Development-Agriculture Funding From Bureau of Indian Affairs”**: Motion was made and seconded to approve Resolution R-06-07-16-F. Motion carried unanimously. **Approval to Exceed Bid Amount on Sole Source Item (Environmental Department)**: Following a brief explanation by Environmental Specialist Erin Arnall, motion was made and seconded to approve current bid, exceeding original budgeted amount on Sole Source Item. Motion carried unanimously. **Approval to Purchase New Soft Count Machine for Buffalo Run Casino out of the Reserve Account**: Following discussion, motion was made and seconded to approve purchase of new Soft Count Machine out of the Capital Reserve Account in the amount of \$185,000.00. Motion carried unanimously. **Approval to Purchase New Point of Sale Property Management System for Buffalo Run Casino, Buffalo Run Hotel and Peoria Ridge Golf Course out of the Reserve Account**: Following discussion, motion was made and seconded to approve purchase of new Point of Sale Property Management System for Buffalo Run Casino, Buffalo Run Hotel and Peoria Ridge Golf Course out of the Capital Reserve Account in the amount of \$265,000.00. Motion carried unanimously. Public comments were received from Carolyn Ritchey regarding Annual Peoria Tribal Children’s Christmas Party. Carolyn asked the Committee to consider including children 13-18 years of age at the Christmas Party, by giving them a fifty-dollar gift. Following discussion, the Committee asked Enrollment Director Donna Harp, to provide information on enrolled tribal members between 13-18 years of age, within a 90 mile radius. Donna Harp agreed to include requested information in the July Business Committee packet for members to review. There was no call for Executive Session. Motion to adjourn was made and seconded. Motion carried unanimously and the meeting was adjourned.

### REGULAR MEETING JULY 5, 2016:

Chief Froman called the meeting to order. Carolyn Ritchey gave the invocation. Secretary Tonya Mathews declared a quorum with all members present. Motion was made and seconded to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously. Motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of June 7, 2016, as presented. Motion carried unanimously. Motion was made and seconded to approve the financial reports for May 2016. Motion carried unanimously. There was no unfinished business brought before the Committee. Motion was made and seconded to approve new members as recommended by the Enrollment Committee. Motion carried unanimously. Upon motions made and duly seconded, two resolutions were presented for consideration and approved by unanimous vote. (1) **Resolution R-07-05-16-A, “Approval for Changes to the Peoria Tribal Membership Roll”**: Motion was made and seconded to approve changes as presented. Motion carried unanimously. (2) **Resolution R-07-05-16-B, “Approving Seven Natural Resource Trustee Tribes of Ottawa County, Northeastern Oklahoma, Climate Change Resource Vulnerability Assessment Proposal for Submittal in Response to the Bureau of Indian Affairs Fiscal Year 2016 Tribal Climate Resilience Program Funding Announcement Request for Proposals”**: Following brief explanation of grant funds, motion was made and seconded to approve Resolution R-07-05-16-B. Motion carried unanimously. Public comments were received from Jason Dollarhide regarding numbers requested from Enrollment Director, Donna Harp, at the Regular Business Committee Meeting in June. The Committee discussed including children 13-18 years of age at the Children’s Christmas Party, by giving them a fifty-dollar gift card. Following discussion, Chief Froman asked the Committee to review the numbers submitted by Donna Harp, and prepare to make a final decision at the August Business Committee Meeting. Motion was made and seconded to move into Executive Session. Motion carried unanimously. Following Executive Session, motion was made and seconded to return to Open Session. Motion carried unanimously. No action was taken during Executive Session. Motion to adjourn was made and seconded. Motion carried unanimously and the meeting was adjourned.

## Tribal Member Reimbursement Program For School Supplies/School Clothes Program Description

The Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma has established a program for reimbursement of school supplies or clothes for members of the Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma who are currently enrolled in grades K through 12. This will be an annual program subject to budget approval each year by the Peoria Tribal Business Committee.

The maximum amount per eligible student per school year is \$500. Reimbursements will be made in accordance with the following Guidelines and made payable to the parent/guardian submitting the application. Reimbursement checks will be mailed to the address as listed on the application.

Examples of costs allowable for reimbursement under this program include paper, pencils, notebooks, backpacks, shoes, clothes, school uniforms, lab fees, activity fees, summer school fees, or other fees charged by the school system. All costs must be itemized on a printed receipt and submitted with the Program Application. All submitted receipts for the school year 2016-17 must be dated between **May 1, 2016-May 31, 2017**. Any receipts submitted not falling between these dates will be returned.

All applications for reimbursements must be submitted to the Education Director at the Peoria Tribal Office. **Only one application will be accepted per student per period. Each student can only be reimbursed 3 times per calendar year not to exceed the \$500 maximum.**

PERIOD	MONTHLY PROCESSING DEADLINE
Period 1 – July 1 <sup>st</sup> through July 31 <sup>st</sup>	July 31 <sup>st</sup>
Period 2 – August 1 <sup>st</sup> through August 30 <sup>th</sup>	August 30 <sup>th</sup>
Period 3 – September 3 <sup>rd</sup> through September 30 <sup>th</sup>	September 30 <sup>th</sup>
Period 4 – October 1 <sup>st</sup> through October 31 <sup>st</sup>	October 31 <sup>st</sup>
Period 5 – November 1 <sup>st</sup> through November 30 <sup>th</sup>	November 30 <sup>th</sup>
Period 6 – December 1 <sup>st</sup> through December 31 <sup>st</sup>	December 31 <sup>st</sup>
Period 7 – January 1, 2017 through January 31, 2017	January 31, 2017
Period 8 – February 1 <sup>st</sup> through February 28 <sup>th</sup>	February 28 <sup>th</sup>
Period 9 - March 1 <sup>st</sup> through March 31 <sup>st</sup>	March 31 <sup>st</sup>
Period 10 – April 1 <sup>st</sup> through April 30 <sup>th</sup>	April 30 <sup>th</sup>
Period 11 - May 1 <sup>st</sup> through May 31 <sup>st</sup>	May 30 <sup>th</sup>
Period 12 - June 1 <sup>st</sup> through June 30 <sup>th</sup>	June 30 <sup>th</sup>

**Applications must be received by the deadline date to be processed for that period.**  
**Any incomplete applications or postage due applications will not be accepted and**  
**will be returned for your completion.**

### Guidelines

- Student must be an enrolled member of the Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma.
- Must provide with application a copy of the student's tribal membership card.
- Student must be currently enrolled in grades K-12.
- Must provide original letter on official letterhead from school certifying the student's enrollment for current school year, or a print off of the students current schedule or grades.
- Must provide original receipts, no copies will be accepted. However, copies will be accepted on a case by case basis. Receipts submitted must be dated between **May 1, 2016-May 31, 2017** and show date and amount of transaction with description of item purchased.
- The maximum annual amount to be reimbursed per student is \$500 and will be made payable to the parent/guardian submitting the Program Application.

**Application Tribal Member Reimbursement Program  
For School Supplies/School Clothes  
Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma  
PO Box 1527, Miami, OK 74355  
918-540-2535**

Parent/Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Please print: First Last

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City/State/Zip

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Please print: First Middle Last

**(Only one application will be accepted per student per period)**

Student's Tribal Roll #: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth date: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Attach copy of students membership card)

School Attending: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Attach original certification of enrollment from school)

Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Total of attached receipts: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**MUST BE ATTACHED: (check list below)**

☐ Copy of Tribal Membership Card

☐ Original Certification of School Enrollment

☐ Original Receipts (not copies) of Purchases for School Supplies/Clothes

All receipts must show date and amount of transaction with description of item purchased.  
Receipts submitted must be dated between May 1, 2016 - May 31, 2017

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE/OFFICE USE ONLY**

Period Received: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Received: \_\_\_\_\_  
Membership Confirmed: \_\_\_\_\_ Check Mailed: \_\_\_\_\_

## FROM THE ENROLLMENT OFFICE

### Is your State Certified Birth Certificate on file in the Enrollment Office?

The Enrollment Office is continuing to update all tribal membership files. Many members have already sent in their state certified birth certificates. To comply with Federal guidelines and be eligible for a CDIB card, issued through the BIA, a state certified birth certificate is required. Reminder; state certified birth certificates must show, state file number, state seal, state registrars signature and parentage. If you are unsure if you have a state birth certificate on file please call the Enrollment Office. If you need assistance in acquiring one please contact State Vital Records Department in the state you were born and they will assist you in how you can acquire one.

### Is your name updated in your membership file?

The Enrollment Office will be glad to assist any member who needs to have their name changed. If your name has changed please update your file to your current legal name. Please bring or send in your legal documentation (such as marriage license, court order, etc.) and the name change process can begin. If you are receiving the tribal newsletter with a previous name listed on the address label, please call the Enrollment Office for assistance or send your legal documentation (i.e. marriage license, court order, etc.) so the name change process can begin. It has been observed, the postal service has been returning newsletters and other miscellaneous correspondence sent from the Tribe if a persons name does not match their postal record. The process to update your name is not an immediate event. Please update your name before a need arises as the process takes the same amount of time whether there is a need or a want for a name change.

### Missing or Change of Address

We still have several members (859) listed on the whereabouts unknown list. Any and all help is appreciated in finding these members. Several members have contacted the office with an update of family members. When the Enrollment Office receives a telephonic or electronic address change, the Enrollment Office will send a change of address form to the missing member with a request for completing the change of address form. Once the Enrollment Office receives the original, signed, completed form, the address is updated and the form is placed in the members file for accuracy. The Enrollment Office must have written permission from the tribal member, over the age of 18, or the legal custodial parent, for members under 18, on file for address changes. If you know someone who has moved or a tribal member household that is not receiving a newsletter please have them contact the Enrollment Office. If you would like to send the address form to them for their completion and return or an individual can download the form from the Peoria Tribe website [www.peoriatribe.com](http://www.peoriatribe.com) a person should; go to Programs, then to Enrollment. Under the Enrollment section there will be a change of address form highlighted in red, open the form, print the form out, have the individual (of over 18) or legal custodial parent (if under 18) to sign and return to the Enrollment Office.

For your convenience, a change of address form has been placed in the newsletter. The address for returning the form is:

Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma

Attn: Enrollment Office

PO Box 1527

Miami OK 74355

Thank you to all who have and will assist in this ongoing endeavor. All help is valued.

### Enrollment Ordinance Reminders

The Enrollment Office receives calls with requests for help or general enrollment information. To help members, listed below are a few reminders of the Enrollment Ordinance, which was revised and approved March 23, 2002. Below are sections of the Enrollment Ordinance of which the questions or information are typically asked.

**Section 2.** Dual enrollment with another Federally recognized tribe is prohibited and such prohibition shall be strictly applied; an enrolled member of another tribe shall not be eligible for membership with the Peoria Tribe. If a member of another tribe wishes to become a member of the Peoria Tribe, they must first relinquish all membership with other Federally recognized tribes.

**Section 8.** Each enrollment application must be completed in its entirety and must contain sufficient information to determine the applicant's eligibility for enrollment. Applicants must list the following on enrollment applications: all names by which the applicant has been known, applicant's current mailing address, name and notarized affidavit confirming applicant is not enrolled with any other Federally recognized tribe, and signature of the applicant or signature of the person filing the application on behalf of the applicant.

**Section 9.** Applications for enrollment must be accompanied with a State certified birth certificate. Applications received without a State certified birth certificate will not be processed. The following must be visible on State certified birth certificates:

State Seal

State File number

State Registrar's signature

State certified birth certificates must also be recorded with the State Vital Records Division of the state of birth. The following documents **are not** acceptable when accompanied with enrollment applications:

Hospital birth certificates

Baptismal certificate (even when parents' names are shown)

Heirship records

County abstracts

Approval of birth certificates issued by foreign nations or other highest-ranking governmental sub-division with jurisdiction to issue birth certificates will be at the discretion of the Enrollment Committee.

**Section 18.** Changes to active membership records, such as name changes due to marriage or divorce, must be made by legal documentation (i.e. marriage license, divorce decree, court order, etc.). Active members with change of addresses and other status information must notify the Enrollment Office at P.O. Box 1527, Miami, OK 74355 or by telephone at 918-540-2535 or 1-800-259-9987. Maintenance and accuracy of membership record data is the sole responsibility of each tribal member. Each tribal member is personally accountable for correct membership record information (i.e. contact information and/or name changes). The Tribal Enrollment Office will review changes to membership records to be forwarded to the Enrollment Committee; the Enrollment Committee shall certify its recommendation of approval to be approved by the Peoria Business Committee. Changes to membership records must ultimately be passed by resolution from the Business Committee and submitted to the Miami Area Agency, Bureau of Indian Affairs.

If I can be of any assistance please call (918) 540-2535 or (800) 259-9987.

Submitted by,

**Donna Harp, Enrollment Director**

## Indian Child Welfare

Indian Child Welfare services for the Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma are available to all enrolled tribal members and, in most cases, to those who are eligible for enrollment.

The Indian Child Welfare Program (ICWP) is located in the Programs Office building. If you should need our services, please feel free to contact us there. The office number is 918-540-2535. You can ask for Doug Journeycake, Director, (Ext. 19 or Cell 918-540-4370).

Lack of Tribal Foster Homes is still an issue for the Tribes. If you are interested in becoming a Tribal Foster Home and want to open your heart and home to children in need, contact the ICWP now. You can give children a chance to have a new and better life. There are many rewards of being a foster parent as well as the wonderful results for the Tribe's children. The process is relatively simple, you fill out an application, and we will do a thorough Federal and State background check on anyone over 18 years of age living in the home. We will require you to provide four personal references that the Indian Child Welfare Program (ICWP) will contact, and then the Indian Child Welfare Director or his designated representative will do a home visit in your home. Once that process is completed, the Indian Child Welfare Program will license your home as a tribal foster home. Additionally, the Department of Human Services (DHS) has a critical need for tribal foster homes to provide homes for Indian Children in state custody.

The Tribe is fortunate that it has very few ICW cases. Tribal members should be proud of themselves and their family members, as this sets a standard that is hard to meet by the other Tribes in the area.

Doug Journeycake, Director  
Indian Child Welfare

## Request for Change of Address

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Tribal Member:

\_\_\_\_\_  
(First Name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Middle Name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Maiden Name/Last Name)

DOB: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Social Security Number)

Roll No. \_\_\_\_\_

New Address:

Old Address:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City State Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
City State Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
Home Phone

\_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of applicant

Please list all tribal members of household who will need to have address changed:

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Name) (Date of Birth) (SSN)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Name) (Date of Birth) (SSN)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Name) (Date of Birth) (SSN)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Name) (Date of Birth) (SSN)



## Water, Wetlands, and Our Future...

**Written by: Erin Barnes**

Water, Wetlands, and Our Future. The Peoria Tribe's Environmental Department takes all three of these very seriously. One of our slogans is, "Working towards cleaner water and restoring native species." The Peoria Tribe's Environmental Department receives two grants each year from the EPA to help develop programs, monitor and improve our watersheds. These two grants consist of the Section 106 Tribal Water Pollution Control Grant and the 319 Nonpoint Source Tribal Base Grant. What are these grant programs? Both are programs under the Environmental Protection Agencies Clean Water Act. Section 106 of the Clean Water Act authorizes EPA to provide grants to States, and eligible Indian Tribes. This grant money is to assist the Tribe in the development and implantation of water pollution control programs. Under the 106 a few programs are eligible, including developing water quality management plans and conducting water quality monitoring. The Nonpoint Source Tribal 319 Base grant may be used for a variety of activities that help implement the program, including: conducting NPS education programs; providing training and authorized travel to attend training; develop watershed-based plans; and implement watershed-based plans and on-the-ground watershed projects.

Peoria Tribe's Environmental Department is currently conducting surface water monitoring on seven locations, on local waters. This year's surface water monitoring at each location consist of: water temperature, conductivity, dissolved oxygen, pH, turbidity, chlorophyll, and ammonia levels. I will break down why each parameter is important to monitor.

- 1) Water temperature is the most common physical assessment of water quality because it affects both the biological characteristics and chemical components of the water. It directly affects dissolved oxygen and photosynthesis of aquatic plants as well as the metabolic rates of aquatic organisms such as fish.
- 2) Conductivity is a measurement of the ability of the water to carry an electrical current. This helps us determine mineralization (dissolved solids) which can have physiological effects on plants and animals depending on the number of available ions in the water.
- 3) Dissolved oxygen- Oxygen is vital for the organisms and creatures living in the water. When amounts of dissolved oxygen drop below normal levels in bodies of water, the water quality is impaired and organisms and creatures begin to die, this is called eutrophication. In rapidly moving water bodies, where there water is turbid, there tends to be higher levels of dissolved oxygen from the movement. In more stagnant areas where the water is sitting still there will be very low levels of dissolved oxygen. This happens a lot in the summer when temperatures rise and pant as well as bacteria growth are high.
- 4) pH- If the pH in water is too high or too low, the aquatic organisms living in that water will die. pH can also affect the toxicity and solubility of heavy metals and chemicals in the water.
- 5) Turbidity is a measure of cloudiness in the water. The higher the turbidity in the water, the murkier it will be. Turbidity is caused by soil erosion, we can use it as a check to see if we have any major erosion issues. Turbidity is not only used as a reference point for soil stability, highly turbid water can be detrimental to aquatic life. A high level of suspended particles can: block sunlight, reducing photosynthesis; absorb heat from sunlight, causing oxygen levels to fall; clog fish gills, prevent egg and larval development, as well as causing aquatic life to have a decreased resistance to diseases.
- 6) Chlorophyll is a key component in the molecular machine that is responsible for photosynthesis. Chlorophyll monitoring is a way to track algae growth.
- 7) Ammonia levels in excess harm aquatic life. Ammonia toxicity is believed to be one of the main reasons for unexplained fish losses, particularly in fish hatcheries.

Personnel in the Environmental Department who work under the 106 grant go monthly and monitor the seven parameters mentioned above on seven sites, once a month if conditions allow. In addition, quarterly the personnel go out on Spring River and take a total of 25 pore water samples from five different gravel bars and send these

samples off to be tested for heavy metals. All results are reported and submitted to the EPA in a final report, per requirement to obtain the grant.

The 319 Base grant allows the department to try and correct some erosion issues, create or reconstruct a wetland to help filter and clean water on tribal land. Wetlands are extremely important ecosystems on a landscape. They provide many benefits for water, fish, wildlife and people. Some of these include protecting and or improving water quality, flood control, wildlife habitat, and maintaining surface water during droughty times. Wetlands are so valuable to our lands and our future. With grant funds for education and outreach, personnel travel to several Environmental Festivals and teach children about Nonpoint Source pollution and the importance of wetlands for water quality. We strongly believe these children hold our future in their hands and should be educated on how to be good stewards of the environment.



As a heads up, this year's Tar Creek Conference will be held on September 12-14th at the Miami Civic Center. All Ottawa County Residents can attend for free. I highly recommend if you have the opportunity that you go and listen, or at least take the tours. There will be local groups speaking, EPA speaking on their clean-up efforts, local tribes, and experts speaking on a number of very interesting topics. You can call the LEAD Agency in Miami (918-542-9399) for more info and registration. There will be a "toxic tour", a video release, a 2 day conference, a fish fry and a bike ride around the Tar Creek area! Come find out how this area affects you and your environment!

LEAD AGENCY AND THE NORTHEAST TRIBES INVITE YOU TO ATTEND THE

18th **National Environmental**

# TAR CREEK

Conference

MIAMI CIVIC CENTER - MIAMI, OK

**SEPTEMBER 13 - 14, 2016**

REGISTRATION OPENS 8 A.M. CONFERENCE 9 A.M. — 5 P.M.

*A Creek Runs Through It ...*



"WHEN WE HEAL THE EARTH,  
WE HEAL OURSELVES."

David Orr

Free Door Prizes + Raffles on Pendleton Blanket + Bake Sale for DEQ + Fish Fry Tuesday Night + Indian Taco Lunch Wednesday

## Topics

Tar Creek Superfund site: What's going on and what happens next? Reports from Quapaw Tribe, DEQ, EPA  
Bees and Butterflies - Tribal and Local Efforts Cultural Plant Study Lead Issues / Health Impacts  
Water Quality in our Creeks, Rivers and Lake BF Goodrich Climate Change Wetlands

## Featured Speakers

Scott Thompson – Oklahoma DEQ // Sarah Hill – Cherokee Nation // Dr. Robert Nairn – University of Oklahoma  
Dr. Edd Rhoades – Oklahoma State Health Dept. // Lissa James – Grand Lake Mental Health

## Tar Creek Conference Opening Reception

Dobson Memorial Center September 12 7:00 p.m.

Tours of Museum and Dobson Home and Mining Exhibit  
View Ozark Uplift Beginning at 6:00 p.m.

## Featuring Artists:

Film: Filo Gomez + Pottery: Betty Gaedike + Poetry: Gladys Keeton

## Public Invited to Attend

Conference Free for Ottawa County Residents

LEAD Agency 918-542-9399

[www.leadagency.org](http://www.leadagency.org)

**EVERYONE LIVING IN THE TAR CREEK SUPERFUND SITE  
OR LIVING DOWNSTREAM SHOULD ATTEND THIS CONFERENCE!**



Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma			
Unaudited Summary Expenditure Budget Report			
As of 6/30/2016			
(In Whole Dollars)			
<u>Open FY 2017 Programs</u>			
Account Title	Currently	Actual	Total
Indian Child Welfare	83,647.00	38,605	45,042
Damage Assessment Project	0.00	4,740	(4,740)
Title VI	121,310.00	100,012	21,298
Indirect Cost Pool	503,865	102,069	401,796
Tribal Properties	282,750	18,045	264,705
Trading Post	8,601	189 *	8,412
Children's Christmas Special Revenue Fund	13,225	67	13,158
Gaming Commission	443,000	67,445	375,555
Cemetery Special Revenue Fund	9,199	2,377	6,822
Pow Wow Fund*	83,314	78,660	4,654
Tribal Fish Hatchery	179,589	24,245	155,344
Elder Care/Disability Program	225,000	19,573	205,427
Education/Activity 2617	1,254,000	14,832	1,239,168
Economic Development / Activity 2614	150,000	-	150,000
Land Acquisition/Activity	100,000	-	100,000
Burial / Activity 2617	216,000	52,019	163,981
Tribal Government / Activity 2621	571,490	39,862	531,628
Legal Fees / Activity 2627	25,000	570	24,430
<b>Totals FY 2016</b>	<b>4,269,990 #</b>	<b>563,309</b>	<b>3,706,681</b>
<u>Open FY 2016 Programs</u>			
Account Title	Currently	Actual	Total
Aid to Tribal Government	244,818.00	0	244,818
Higher Education Grant	55,159	9,874	
Noxious Weeds	12,528.00	1,455	11,073
Child Care Program	1,011,303.00	25,358	985,945
Water Quality Program	137,993.00	71,877	66,116
<b>Totals FY 2016</b>	<b>1,461,801 #</b>	<b>108,564</b>	<b>1,307,952</b>
<u>Open FY 2015 Programs</u>			
Account Title	Currently	Actual	Total
Aid to Tribal Government	245,821.00	5,838	239,983
Invasive Species	185,000.00	82,587	102,413
Fish Hatchery Maintenance	240,200.00	129,799	110,401
Title IV B	8,674.00	6,111	2,563
Child Care Program	907,849.00	681,156	226,693
Water Non Point Source Base	94,540.00	64,736	29,804
Promoting Safe & Stable Families	13,707.00	4,312	9,395
Cultural Resource Fund	15,000.00	0	15,000
<b>Totals FY 2015</b>	<b>1,710,791 #</b>	<b>974,540</b>	<b>736,251</b>
<u>Open FY 2014 Programs</u>			
Account Title	Currently	Actual	Total
Damage Assessment Project	52,225.00	52,131	94
Fish Hatchery Maintenance	404,000.00	354,704	49,296
I H S Solid Waste Project	167,000	150,996	16,004
<b>Totals FY 2014</b>	<b>623,225 #</b>	<b>557,832</b>	<b>65,393</b>
<u>Open FY 2013 Programs</u>			
Account Title	Currently	Actual	Total
GAP	365,463.00	297,780	67,683
<b>Totals FY 2013</b>	<b>365,463</b>	<b>297,780</b>	<b>67,683</b>
<u>Open FY 2008 Programs</u>			
Account Title	Currently Budgeted	Actual Cumulative Expenditures	Total Budget Remaining
Housing Improvement Program Contract	25,069	15,839	9,230
<b>Totals FY 2008</b>	<b>25,069</b>	<b>15,839</b>	<b>9,230</b>

PEORIA TRIBE			
SUMMARY OF TRUST FUNDS			
June 30, 2016			
0			
ACTIVITY	TOTAL		
114 ACRES AT WYANDOTTE			\$6,392.20
PEORIA DESCENDANTS	PRINCIPAL	0	11,288.30
	INTEREST	11,288.30	
EDUCATION (Transfer)			808.00
EDUCATION	PRINCIPAL	176,850.16	281,664.32
	INTEREST	104,814.16	
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	PRINCIPAL	172,150.95	267,298.93
	INTEREST	95,147.98	
LAND ACQUISITION	PRINCIPAL	172,150.95	267,355.83
	INTEREST	95,204.88	
BURIAL	PRINCIPAL	57,386.81	91,040.75
	INTEREST	33,653.94	
TRIBAL GOV'T	PRINCIPAL	571,591.85	967,764.60
	INTEREST	396,172.75	
LEGAL	PRINCIPAL	57,386.81	92,103.61
	INTEREST	34,716.80	
TOTAL			1,985,716.54
SUMMARY			
OVERNIGHTER (U.S. TREASURY)			55,866.54
INVESTMENTS			1,929,850.00
TOTAL			1,985,716.54

[www.peoriatribes.com](http://www.peoriatribes.com)

[www.beolustipe.com](http://www.beolustipe.com)

### **The Peoria Tribal Burial Assistance Benefit**

The Peoria Tribal Burial Assistance Benefit is \$10,000 per member. All Burial Assistance Applications must be completed and returned with an original certified death certificate no later than 180 days from the date of death. All deceased must be enrolled members of the Peoria Tribe. Payment will be made directly to the funeral home. Please visit with the funeral home concerning this policy. You may request a copy of the application by contacting the Tribal Enrollment Director, Donna Harp, in writing, via email at [dharp@peoriatribes.com](mailto:dharp@peoriatribes.com), postal service, or by telephone at 918-540-2535 or 1-800-259-9987.

### **Tribal Member Reimbursement Program For School Supplies/School Clothes**

I mailed out 556 applications to all tribal members ages 5-19 on July 1, 2015, for the school year 2015-16.

69 applications were received by the June 30th deadline. A total of \$25,329.38 was reimbursed to the tribal members for the 11th & 12th periods.

June 31, 2016 closed out the school year 2015-16. A total of 453 applications have been received and processed. A total of \$207,048.16 was reimbursed to the tribal members for the school year 2015-16.

I mailed out 650 applications to all tribal members ages 5-19 on July 1, 2015 for the school year 2016-17.

54 applications were received by the July 31<sup>st</sup> deadline. A total of \$16,430.54 was reimbursed to the tribal members for the 1st period.

Mandie Ferguson, Education Director

### **EDUCATION**

Thank you to the Education Committee: Sadie Detherage and Alan Goforth, Donna Fitzgibbon was not able to make the meeting. The committee is responsible for screening student applications and their efforts are appreciated.

The education committee met on August 4, 2016, to review the applications received by the July 31<sup>st</sup> deadline for the Fall 2016 semester. It was the decision of the committee to fund 67 renewal students, 23 new students, 7 part-time students, 15 graduate program students, and 1 part-time graduate program students. Letters were mailed to 18 students requesting addition information. It was also the decision of the committee to not fund 2 students due to incomplete applications.

Financial need is not one of the criteria for the Peoria scholarship. Every Peoria college student is encouraged to apply. Please feel free to stop by the Peoria Tribal Office for other financial aid or scholarship information. It is never too early to obtain a scholarship application. You may do so by writing Education Director, Peoria Tribe, P.O. Box 1527, Miami, OK 74355; by phoning the Peoria office 1-918-540-2535 ext 10 or 1-800-259-9987 ext 10; or check it out on the Peoria Tribal website, [www.peoriatribes.com](http://www.peoriatribes.com).

**Application deadlines are July 31 for the Fall semester and January 7 for the Spring semester.** Incomplete or postage due applications will not be considered. Students who accept scholarship funds but do not complete their obligation for that semester or maintain a 2.5 GPA forfeit their eligibility for one semester.

If you know a Peoria student who has received scholastic honors or other special recognition at his or her school, please let the Education Director know. I can be reached at 1-800-259-9987, or 1-918-540-2535.

Mandie Ferguson, Education Director

ITEM DESCRIPTION	PRICE
Peoria History Book	\$20.00
Miami/Peoria Dictionary	\$7.00
Myaamia & Peoria Narratives & Winter Stories	\$4.00
History of Illinois Indians DVD	\$29.95
Youth T-Shirts (please see list of available sizes)	\$8.00
Adults T-Shirts (please see list of available sizes)	\$10.00 plus sizes add \$2
Youth black long sleeved T-Shirts & 3/4 length black & gray baseball shirts (please see list of available sizes)	\$12.00
Adults black long sleeved T-Shirts & 3/4 length black & gray baseball shirts (please see list of available sizes)	\$15.00 plus sizes add \$2
Youth Hoodies (please see list of available sizes)	\$16.00
Adults Hoodies (please see list of available sizes)	\$18.00 plus sizes add \$2
Insulated Mugs	\$5.00/Each or 2/\$9.00
Ceramic Coffee Mugs (please see list of available colors)	\$5.00/Each or 2/\$9.00
Tribal Caps (please see list of available colors)	\$12.00
License Plates (Novelty)	\$ 6.00
Blankets (please see list of available colors)	\$20.00
Beaded Earrings & Bracelets (please contact office for more details & availability)	\$8.00 - \$12.00
Beaded Necklaces Sets (please contact office for more details & availability)	\$35.00
Shawls (please contact office for more details & availability)	\$15.00 - \$50.00

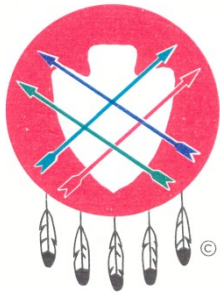
Blanket colors	
Black	Forest Green
Royal Blue	Charcoal Gray
Red	

Ball Cap Colors	
Black	Navy
Dark Green	Tan
Maroon	Charcoal Gray

Coffee Mug Colors
Black
Dark Green
Wedgewood Blue
Yellow
Purple
Pink

## Available sizes

T-shirts	Hoodies	Baseball Shirts
Youth sizes:	Youth sizes:	Youth sizes:
12 & 24 mos		
2T/ 3T/ X-Sm/Y Sm/Y Med/Y Lg	2T/ 3T/ Med/ Lg	Y Sm/Y Med/Y Lg
Adult sizes:	Adult sizes:	Adult sizes:
Sm/ Med/ Lg/ XL/ Plus Size: XXL/ XXXL	Sm/ Med/ Lg/ XL/ Plus Size: XXL/ XXXL	Sm/ Med/ Lg/ XL/ Plus Size: XXL/ XXXL



## **TRADING POST ORDER FORM**

Order information:

DATE:

Phone: 918-540-2535

Email: mferguson@peoriatribe.com – Please email with any questions you might have.

Fax: 918-540-2538

Mail: Send this form to Peoria Tribe

Attn: Trading Post

PO Box 1527

Miami, OK 74355

Item Description	Size/ Color	Price	Qty	Total

Shipping for orders \$75 or less is \$7.50

SUBTOTAL

Shipping for orders over \$75 add 10%

SHIPPING

TOTAL

### SHIPPING ADDRESS

Name:

Street:

City:

State: Zip:

Phone:

Email:

**PLEASE MAKE CHECKS OR MONEY ORDERS PAYABLE TO: PEORIA TRIBE**

## Child Care Development Fund Program

The child care program is funded through the Administration for Children and Families (ACF). This program is to provide childcare services and activities. The qualifications for the program are:

- There will always be a co-pay per child per month for each family.
- Live within 100 miles of the Peoria Tribal Office in the states of Missouri, Kansas, Arkansas, or Oklahoma.
- There must be an Indian in the household.
- Be under 13 years of age; or be under age 19 and physically or mentally incapable of caring for themselves; or under court supervision.
- Reside with a family whose income does not exceed the maximum net income level, there will be some deductions considered. Income level does not apply to the children that are physically or mentally incapable of caring for themselves.
- Co-pay **example**: Monthly net income of \$4,054.00 for a family of four, the co-pay would be \$105.00 per child per month. Every family will have a co-pay.
- Reside with a parent, parents or guardian who are gainfully employed or attending a job training or educational program; or receive, or need to receive, protective services.
- Adult must be at work or in class in order for the CCDF Program to assist with child care.

### “MOMMY WILL YOU LAY WITH ME?”

#### WHEN YOUR CHILDREN WANT YOU TO LIE DOWN WITH THEM AT NIGHT

I have a new favorite phrase from our kids... **Mommy will you lay with me** ... why? Let me tell you. Do you hear this every night, as I do? Our children want me to lie down with them every night. This question is always on their minds, because they love to spend time with you. Several years ago, a friend of the family's son passed away, while he was sleeping. A week later, another seven year old boy passed away, only one town away, unexpectedly, while he was outside playing. This is hard for me to think about, talk about and write about. We have kids close in age to these boys. (We have four kids: born in '06, '08, '10 and '12) Here we are with our oldest, when he was just seven years old, the same age as these boys. Do you know what our seven year old asks me every single night as I am tucking him in... **“Mommy, will you lay with me?”** I am sad now thinking that most nights my answer is this: “Just for a second, sweetie. I have to make sure that your sister and brothers are all tucked in. I have to clean up the kitchen. I have to work on my notes for work. Daddy and I are going to eat dinner, since we didn't get to eat as early as you tonight....” whatever the reason, they all say the same thing to him: “Just for a second. Other things are coming first.”

I know, I know... as parents, we can't lie there all night. He would expect this, as would all of our kids. “You give an inch, they take a mile”. We think we will lie down for 5 minutes, they want 20. We give 20, they want 40. But... Do you know what? **This is when the good stuff comes out.** This is when I hear all of those details that seven year olds don't tell their moms anymore.

“So & So told me that I was cute today. How disgusting. Right, Mom?”

“Today we had a math test and I got them ALL right! See, Mom? I just practiced and then I did it!”

“I miss our dog. When do you think we can get another one?”

“Mom, you know how you told me that during wrestling practice I should try to help Beau [younger brother] when he is running slow? I did. I ran right beside him, just like you and Daddy told me. I even told him that he could do it. He said that his stomach hurt from running and I told him that if he wanted to slow down, I would slow down with him, even though running that slow is REALLY boring, Mom!”

These are the things that happen when we put aside everything else. These are things that happen when we forget about whatever else we have to do or want to do. My grandma used to tell me to enjoy our kids when we had them. She would say that she didn't know why people would have kids if they didn't get to spend time with them. She said that she loved raising her kids and that she knew I would be the same way. My parents and my husband's parents remind us that one day, they won't want to spend so much time with us. It breaks my heart to think of this, but you know what? ...**That day IS NOT TODAY. TODAY,**

I will lie down with him when he asks me to, and with all four of our children. I will sing Toora Loora Loora and Que Sera Sera (their favorite songs).

And do you know what?

If it adds ten minutes onto the end of our night, when our patience is low and our exhaustion is high, that is ten more minutes that I was lucky enough to have spent with our children.... listening, encouraging, telling them the **unspoken words that say: TODAY, RIGHT NOW, YOU ARE THE MOST IMPORTANT THING TO ME.**

And do you know what?

In ten years, those unspoken words will come back to me when he is a seventeen year old boy and I ask **him** to stop what he is doing and sit or lie down with **ME** for a moment... and he does.

## How to Beat the Back-to-School Blues

By Nicole Blades

There he was, our son, as sweet as a cinnamon bun, marching confidently into a new chapter of his life: his first day of pre-school. We felt like celebrating—or at least doling out a healthy round of fist bumps watching him move into “big boy” status last fall. Frankly, we were also relieved. Despite a small delay involving a slightly burnt piece of toast, we made it out of the house easily. No protests. No crying. No drama.

As we move toward kindergarten and grade school, I can only hope that heading back to school—after a summer of sun and fun—will always be so effortless. However, for many children, the start of the new school year means the end of fun and free time. If most kids had it their way, summer would last forever. But we already know that’s never going to happen, so instead, help them see that there’s a way to return to school buses, backpacks and books with a genuine smile—not a grimace—on their faces. Here are some helpful tips for beating the back-to-school blues.

### Give them the 4-1-1.

If your child is starting at a new school—moving to kindergarten from day care or middle school from elementary—they may feel anxious about all the newness. It’s important to give them as much information as possible in advance, says Dr. Rochelle Harris, a psychologist at Children’s Mercy Hospital and Clinics in Kansas City, Missouri. For example:

1. “If you can, visit the school one week before, to help them learn the layout of the building,” she says.
2. Get your kid’s class schedule ahead of time and walk through it with them. “You can decrease a lot of uncertainty and help them get familiar with all of the new components they’re facing.”
3. Practice opening their lockers, especially if it’s a combination lock. “It can be a panicky thing for kids if their locker sticks and they can’t open it,” Dr. Harris says.
4. Meet the teacher. “Make sure the teacher knows that your child is new to the school or the neighborhood,” she says. “Writing a letter to the teacher with basic tips and easy requests is a big help. “For instance, let the teacher know that you just moved there or that your child has never been to a school this size.”

### Talk through anxieties.

Kids might feel ambivalent or anxious about returning to school for a number reasons. “Whatever the issue, talk about it, but don’t dwell on it,” says Dr. Harris. Also, listen closely to the content, she says. Kids tend to globalize things: I never have fun. School is always boring. “It’s that ‘all or nothing’ thinking that can lead children to feel depressed,” Dr. Harris says. Get them refocused, and challenge that negativity. Remind them about the fun that awaits them at school and on the weekends too. “The key is to normalize it for them and keep a positive spin: ‘Oh, yeah, I hear you, but also remember how much fun you had with your classmates last year. I’m sure this time will be like that.’”

### Create a plan of action.

If your child has a legitimate issue that’s leaving them unenthusiastic about returning to school—maybe they struggled with a subject or were bullied—Dr. Harris strongly recommends creating a plan of action and explaining it to your child. “If your kid had trouble in math last year, tell him/her that you are going to start the process of getting them more support, and then follow through,” she says. Or in a bullying situation, let your child know that you will speak to the school and involve the necessary parties to ensure that it’s being looked into and handled.

### Get reacquainted with old friends.

With summer camps and family vacations, sometimes your kids don’t see their school friends until that first day back. Dr. Harris recommends reconnecting with buddies a week or so beforehand to get reacquainted. Play dates or, for older children, an easy end-of-summer BBQ in the backyard are great ways to do this. “Suggest that your child call up a friend and coordinate a pre-school meet up. Maybe they can arrange to walk into school at the same time on the first day,” she says. A phone call to a friend three or four days ahead can help calm your child’s concerns about going back to school.

### Make a special purchase.

Sometimes getting your child excited about the new school year can be as simple as letting them pick out a special item when you’re doing back-to-school shopping. “If the latest backpack helps them feel included, and it works with your budget, just buy it,” Dr. Harris says. “It could make a world of difference.”



**Application**  
**Elder Care & Disability Reimbursement Program**  
PO Box 1527, Miami, OK 74355  
918-540-2535

Tribal Member Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City/State/Zip Code

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

**(Only 3 applications will be accepted per tribal member per fiscal year)**

Tribal Roll #: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Attach copy of membership card)

Birth date: \_\_\_\_\_

Program Applying for: (check one)

**Elder Care:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Disability:** \_\_\_\_\_

Total of attached receipts: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**MUST BE ATTACHED: (check list below)**

☐

Copy of Tribal Membership Card

☐

Copy of Photo I.D.

☐

Original Receipts of Purchases for items or services (stated in guidelines)

**Disability applicants will also need:**

☐

Award Letter, Benefit Statement or Determination of Disability documentation.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE/OFFICE USE ONLY**

Date Received: \_\_\_\_\_ Membership confirmed: \_\_\_\_\_ Reimbursement Requisition \_\_\_\_\_ Check mailed \_\_\_\_\_

## Elder Care and Disability Reimbursement Program

Below is the program description and the application can be found on page 4. You may also review the policies and procedures on the tribal website, or contact the office to receive a copy. If you have any questions feel free to contact Logan Pappenfort at 918-540-2535 Ext. 31 at the Peoria Tribal office.

### Program Description

The Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma has established a program to aid the elderly population that could benefit from an additional funding source to supplement their households, and/or disability needs, without restricting or interfering with other government programs.

The Elder Care and Disability Reimbursement Program (ECDRP) will make available up to \$1000 per fiscal year (April 1st- March 31st) for eligible tribal members. Each eligible tribal member may only choose from one program to receive reimbursement, being limited to 3 requests for services per fiscal year, not to exceed maximum total of \$1000. All denied benefits will be reviewed by a 3 person Review Committee comprised of the Chief and 2

accounting staff members. Individuals will not be permitted to receive benefits as both “elderly” and “disabled.”

**Applicants may only utilize one program.**

### Qualifications Criteria:

- ◆ Individual must be a **current enrolled living member** of the Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma, evidenced by Tribal Enrollment Card to receive benefits.
- ◆ Eligible tribal member must be **65 years or older**, evidenced by a Photo I.D. to receive benefits.
- ◆ Eligible **adult** tribal member must provide an award letter or benefit statement from the Social Security
- ◆ Administration (dated within last 90 days), to receive disability benefits. **No other proof of disability will be accepted.**
- ◆ Minors or other disabled individuals already receiving Disability Social Security or SSI benefits payable to a representative payee, will be eligible for tribal reimbursement program. All payments will be made to the **representative payee** as designated on SSI records. **Minors not receiving SSI benefits must have documentation of state or federal Determination of Disability to receive reimbursement.**

### Eligibility for Reimbursement:

- ◆ An approved application **signed by applicant or legal representative** must be on file. A new application is to be submitted each fiscal year.
- ◆ Submission date of the application will be the date the application is received at the Tribal office.
- ◆ **ORIGINAL RECEIPT(s) (not copies)** must be sent to the tribal office, and be dated within the fiscal year of application date.
- ◆ All receipts must come from the vendor or service provider, contain the vendor’s contact information, and a detailed summary of product(s) and services.
- ◆ Eligibility for both programs cease upon tribal members death.

### Eligible Expenses:

#### **Insurance and Taxes:**

- ◆ Life Insurance
- ◆ Home Owner’s Insurance
- ◆ Automotive Insurance
- ◆ Healthcare Insurance
- ◆ Personal Content Insurance for renters
- ◆ Property Tax

**Note: ALL insurance/proof of ownership of property must be in the name of the eligible tribal member to qualify for payment.**

#### **Utilities:**

- ◆ Electric
- ◆ Natural gas
- ◆ Propane
- ◆ Water
- ◆ Trash services
- ◆ Telephone services

**Note: ALL utilities must be in the name of the eligible tribal member to qualify for payment.**

#### **Health Care Expense:**

- ◆ Prescription eye glasses
- ◆ Dentures
- ◆ Medical Alert Service
- ◆ Prescription medication
- ◆ Health care deductibles
- ◆ Physician prescribed ambulatory product (wheelchair, cane, walker)
- ◆ Hearing aids
- ◆ Miscellaneous items prescribed by a physician

**Note: ALL prescriptions and deductibles must be in the name of the eligible tribal member to qualify for payment.**

EEHĪŠĪ IIYAAYANKWI, is a quarterly newspaper published by the Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma.  
If you have Tribal information or article suggestions, please contact us at 918-540-2535.

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## Attention Pond and Lake Owners! We now have Smallmouth and Largemouth to stock your favorite fishing area.

### Peoria Tribe Aquatic Facility Price Sheet

#### Smallmouth Bass

SIZE	PRICE
<3"	\$3.00 per fish min 100
3"- 4"	\$3.25 per fish min 100
5" – 8"	\$3.50 per fish min 100
9" – 12"	\$4.00 per fish min 100
>13"	\$22/lb. based on availability



**Bulk prices based on availability.**

#### Largemouth Bass

SIZE	PRICE
<3"	\$1.25 per fish min 100
3"- 4"	\$1.50 per fish min 100
5" – 8"	\$1.75 per fish min 100
9" – 12"	\$2.00 per fish min 100
>13"	\$7.50/lb. based on availability



**Bulk prices based on availability.**

Delivery charge within 25 miles of Facility: \$25.00

Any added mileage after 25 miles: \$25.00 + \$0.65 per mile



For more information. Please  
contact Kyle Foster in the  
Environmental Department at  
918-540-2535

